

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. A method of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that saliva is collected from the mouth of subject, a given ratio of acid is added to the saliva, and the chemical property of the saliva is measured to evaluate the risk of possible caries base on the measured value.

Claim 2. A method of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that the saliva is collected from the mouth of the subject, the chemical property of the saliva is measured using a chemical property measuring device, a given ratio of acid is added to the saliva, and the chemical property of saliva is measured again to evaluate the risk of possible caries based on the difference between the measured value of chemical property of saliva before adding acid and that after adding acid.

Claim 3. The method of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising that acid is mixed in the saliva by determining the quantity of the saliva to be collected and immersing an absorbing piece, which absorbs a given ratio of acid, in the saliva.

Claim 4. A device of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that it is composed of a container for storing the saliva collected from the mouth of the subject, a sensor surface, which comes in contact with the saliva to measure the chemical property of the saliva, and a computing part for evaluating the risk of possible caries based on the measured value for the chemical property of the stored saliva after a given ratio of acid is dropped in the saliva in the container.

Claim 5. A device of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that it is composed of container for storing the saliva collected from the mouth of the subject, a sensor surface, which comes in contact with the saliva to measure the chemical property of the saliva, and a computing part for evaluating the risk of possible caries based on the difference between the measured value for the chemical property of the stored saliva immediately after the collection and that after a given ratio of acid is dropped in.

Claim 6. The device of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 4 or 5, further comprising that the computing part has a table for storing the relationship, which derives the grade of the risk of possible caries from the two measured values got before and after adding acid to the saliva or the measured value got after adding acid in the saliva, between the measured value(s) of chemical property of the saliva and the grade.

Claim 7. A system of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that it is composed of a measuring device for measuring the chemical property of the saliva collected from the mouth of the subject, a server having a database storing evaluation criterion data used in evaluating the risk of possible caries based on the measured value for the chemical property of the saliva to possess a risk evaluation function for evaluating the risk of possible caries for the subject using the measured value for the chemical property measured by the measuring device, a terminal having at least a evaluation output function for outputting the result of the evaluation of the risk of the possible caries, and a network for performing at least one of data inputs/outputs among the measuring device, the server, and the terminal.

Claim 8. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 7, further comprising that the database contains electronic medical chart recording dental condition transition data composed of the measured value for the chemical property of the saliva of the subject.

Claim 9. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 8, further comprising that the server has a electronic medical chart browsing function for browsing the dental condition transition data of the subject recorded on the medical chart by using the terminal.

Claim 10. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 8 or 9, further comprising that the electronic medical chart contains the history data of medical treatment of the subject teeth as dental condition transition data and the server has an evaluation criterion create/update function for creating or changing the evaluation criterion data by taking the statistic on

the measured value data and the history data recorded on a plurality of electronic medical charts.

Claim 11. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 8 through 10 wherein it is composed of a terminal having an individual evaluation criterion input function for browsing the dental condition transition data recorded on the electronic medical chart to create or modify the individual evaluation criterion data refined for each subject.

Claim 12. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 11 wherein the database contains the treatment guideline data giving the guideline for treatment in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

Claim 13. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 12, further comprising that the server has a treatment recommendation distribution function for distributing appropriate treatment to the individual subjects in accordance with the grade of evaluation of the risk of possible caries via any of electronic communication means such as e-mail.

Claim 14. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 12 or 13, further comprising that the treatment guideline data contains the subject treatment guideline data for the subjects and the dentist treatment guideline for the dentists.

Claim 15. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 14 wherein the database contains a mouth condition medicine list.

Claim 16. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 15 wherein the server has an inspection reservation function for accepting the evaluation of the risk of possible caries by assigning the right of use of the measuring device to the individual subjects when accessed by the subjects via their terminals via the network.

Claim 17. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 16 wherein the server has an evaluation distribution function for distributing grades of evaluation of the risk of possible caries to the

subjects via any of electronic communication means such as e-mail.

Claim 18. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 17 wherein the server contains a dentist list.

Claim 19. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 18, further comprising that the server has a treatment reservation function for reserving the treatment by the dentist, who is included in the dentist list, by accessing from the subject's terminal via the network.

Claim 20. The system of evaluating the risk of caries according to either of claims 7 through 19 wherein the server has a regular inspection recommendation function for distributing the recommendation of regular inspection to the subjects depending on their grades of evaluation of the risk of possible caries via any of electronic communication means such as e-mail.

Claim 21. A program of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that it involves a step for obtaining the measured value for the chemical property of the saliva collected form the mouth of the subject, a step for referring to the evaluation criterion data in evaluating the risk of possible caries based on the measured valued for the chemical property contained in the database, and a step for outputting the obtained measured value for the chemical property in the form of the grade of evaluation of the risk of possible caries based on the evaluation criterion data, and that these steps are performed by a computer.

Claim 22. The program of evaluating the risk of caries according to claim 21, further comprising that it involves a step for storing the dental condition transition data of the subject containing the measured value for the chemical property in the database as an electronic medical chart, and that this step is performed by a computer.

Claim 23. A method of evaluating the risk of caries having such a characteristic that it measures the chemical property of the saliva collected from the mouth of the subject and outputs the measured value for chemical property in the form of the grade of evaluation of the risk of possible caries

of the subject by referring to the database recording the evaluation criterion data for evaluating the risk of possible caries in accordance with the measured value, creates an electronic medical chart recording the dental condition transition data containing the measured value for the chemical property of the subject's saliva, and performs at least one of input of the measured value for the chemical property, reference to the database, and output of the grade of evaluation of the risk of possible caries through data communications via a network.